

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 21-23 without prejudice.

Please amend the following claims:

1. (amended) A retaining panel for a body of water, the retaining panel comprising:
- a continuous central portion having a first end and a second end;
 - a first side portion integrally connected to and extending rearwardly at a first angle from said first end of said central portion, said first side portion having a rear end;
 - a second side portion integrally connected to and extending rearwardly at a second angle from said second end of said central portion, said second side portion having a rear end;
 - a first flange integrally connected to and extending from said rear end of said first side portion, said first flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said first flange defining a female connecting portion, said distal portion of said first flange extending forwardly at a third angle from said proximal portion of said first flange to said female connecting portion; and
 - a second flange integrally connected to and extending from said rear end of said second side portion, said second flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said second flange defining a male connecting portion, said distal portion of said second flange extending

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forwardly at a fourth angle from said proximal portion of said second flange and terminating with said male connecting portion;

wherein said retaining panel has a width of at least about 24 inches and is adapted to be connected to a substantially similar, adjacent retaining panel by inserting said male connecting portion of said retaining panel into said female connecting portion of said adjacent retaining panel.

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14. (amended) A retaining panel for a body of water, said retaining panel comprising:

a continuous central portion having a first end and a second end;

a first side portion integrally connected to and extending at a first angle from said first end of said central portion, said first side portion having a rear end;

a second side portion integrally connected to and extending at a second angle from said second end of said central portion, said second angle approximately equal to said first angle, said second side portion having a rear end;

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a first flange integrally connected to and extending at a third angle from said rear end of said first side portion, said first flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said first flange defining a female connecting portion, said distal portion of said first flange extending at a fifth angle from said proximal portion of said first flange to said female connecting portion; and

a second flange integrally connected to and extending at a fourth angle from said rear end of said second side portion, said second flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said second

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flange defining a male connecting portion, said distal portion of said second flange extending at a sixth angle from said proximal portion of said second flange and terminating with said male connecting portion;

wherein said retaining panel has a width of at least about 24 inches and is adapted to be connected to a substantially similar, adjacent retaining panel by inserting said male connecting portion of said retaining panel into said female connecting portion of said adjacent retaining panel.

21/10. (amended) A retaining panel of one-piece construction for a body of water, said retaining panel comprising:

a central portion having a first end and a second end;

a first side portion integrally connected to and extending at a first angle from said first end of said central portion, said first side portion having a rear end;

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a second side portion integrally connected to and extending at a second angle from said second end of said central portion, said second side portion having a rear end, said second angle approximately equal to said first angle, the length of said second side portion approximately equal to the length of said first side portion;

a first flange integrally connected to and extending at a third angle from said rear end of said first side portion, said first flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said first flange defining a female connecting portion, said distal portion of said first flange extending at a fifth angle from said proximal portion of said first flange to said female connecting portion; and

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a second flange integrally connected to and extending at a fourth angle from said rear end of said second side portion, said fourth angle approximately equal to said third angle, said second flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said second flange defining a male connecting portion, said distal portion of said second flange extending at a sixth angle from said proximal portion of said second flange and terminating with said male connecting portion;

wherein said retaining panel has a width of at least about 24 inches and is adapted to be interlocked with a substantially similar, adjacent retaining panel by inserting said male connecting portion of said retaining panel into said female connecting portion of said adjacent retaining panel.

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Please add the following new claims:

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24. (new) The retaining panel of claim 1 wherein:

said female connecting portion is substantially C-shaped;

said male connecting portion is substantially T-shaped; and

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said distal portion of said second flange levels to being substantially parallel to said proximal portion of said second flange prior to terminating with said male connecting portion.

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25. (new) The retaining panel of claim 14¹⁵ wherein:

said female connecting portion is substantially C-shaped;

said male connecting portion is substantially T-shaped; and

said distal portion of said second flange levels to being substantially parallel to said proximal portion of said second flange prior to terminating with said male connecting portion.

26. (new) The retaining panel of claim ²¹~~19~~ wherein:

said female connecting portion is substantially C-shaped;

said male connecting portion is substantially T-shaped; and

said distal portion of said second flange levels to being substantially parallel to said proximal portion of said second flange prior to terminating with said male connecting portion.
